

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Slave Narratives and Spirituals to be Presented at Library on Oct. 21 Event is Part of the Program "Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln's Journey to Emancipation"

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego Public Library will host a program on slave narratives and spirituals presented by the Black Storytellers of San Diego Inc. The free event takes place at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 21 in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego.

The Black Storytellers of San Diego Inc., which has a mission which includes maintaining a network of individuals and groups to preserve the oral traditions of the African Diaspora, will share the slaves' experiences from the perspective of the enslaved. The production will consist of spirituals, containing coded messages for the captives to make it to freedom, and stories from black soldiers and others that evoke the time.

The "Forever Free" exhibit will be on display in the lobby of the Central Library, accompanied by exciting programs ranging from book and film discussions to scholarly lectures, from Oct. 11 through Nov. 24. The Central Library is one of 40 stops on the national traveling exhibit's schedule, which began in September 2003. Find more information on the exhibit and events at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

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The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future

"Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln's Journey to Emancipation" has been organized by the Huntington Library, San Marino, Calif., and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, New York City, in cooperation with the American Library Association Public Programs Office. This exhibition was made possible by major grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, promoting excellence in the humanities, and the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, created by Congress and charged with planning the national celebration of Lincoln's 200th birthday.

Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this exhibition and related programs do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.